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Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

Security Council
Sixty-seventh year

Letter dated 18 October 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the seventeenth annual report of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (A/67/253-S/2012/594), which was submitted to you by the President of the Tribunal, Vagn Joensen, and transmitted to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council. Under the heading "Activities of the Office of the Prosecutor", in paragraph 44 it is stated that in the search for three fugitives, cooperation with some Member States, in particular Zimbabwe and Kenya, continues to be slow.

This is a misguided perception by the Prosecutor, who has sent tracking teams to Zimbabwe on several occasions in search of one of these fugitives. The Republic of Zimbabwe rejects this portrayal of its cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and is dismayed by the continuing smear campaign it has received from the Prosecutor over the past few years.

I refer you to Zimbabwe's letter dated 27 June 2012 (S/2012/497) on the same matter, which was responding to the Prosecutor's statement to the Security Council on the work of the Tribunal.

Zimbabwe takes seriously its international obligations and in this regard has fully cooperated with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. Zimbabwe also welcomes the progress made by the Tribunal and believes that, together with other tribunals, it has laid a strong foundation for peace and justice through the development and the enforcement of international criminal law.

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Zimbabwe once again wishes to inform you that on three occasions it has welcomed to the country tracking teams from the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and has worked with them to establish whether Protais Mpiranya is in Zimbabwe. Last month, September 2012, a tracking team from the Tribunal was in Zimbabwe and held meetings with various authorities on the issue.

As Rwanda stated in its statement to the General Assembly on 15 October 2012, the Government of Zimbabwe has launched a manhunt for the fugitive, Protais Mpiranya. It has even offered a reward for anyone in the country with information on his whereabouts.

This proves beyond reasonable doubt that Zimbabwe is cooperating with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. In any case, it is in Zimbabwe's interest to cooperate with the Tribunal to put this issue to rest to the satisfaction of all those involved.

Taking into account the above, Zimbabwe is disheartened by the continued baseless doubts as to its cooperation, and the peddling of false allegations against it by the Prosecutor. Zimbabwe strongly feels that it must be treated fairly and with respect. In this case, its views should have been sought before the finalization of the report.

The Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe will continue to cooperate with the Tribunal as required and in fulfilment of its international obligations as a member of the United Nations.

I should be most grateful if the present letter could also be transmitted to the President of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council. I also request that it be circulated as a document of both the General Assembly and the Security Council.

(*Signed*) C. **Chipaziwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative